

**The Third Sunday of Advent**  
**Holy Eucharist: Rite II**  
**December 14, 2025 10:00 AM**  
**St. Andrew's Episcopal Church**



**Welcome!** We are glad you are here. No matter where you are on your faith journey, there's a place for you here. If you are interested in learning about the Episcopal Church and St. Andrew's, brochures are available by the mailboxes.

All who seek God and a deeper life in Christ are welcome to receive Holy Communion. You will be given a piece of bread, and you may either consume it and drink from the chalice or dip your bread into the chalice of wine (intinction). You can always choose to receive communion in one kind only by receiving the bread and then crossing your arms over your chest when offered the wine. Gluten-free communion wafers are available – simply notify the priest. Please notify an usher if you wish to have Holy Communion brought to you at your seat. **Note: Communion will be done standing, forming of two stations.**

If you desire individual prayer during communion, someone is available to pray with you at the back of the sanctuary in the Chapel area.

Children are welcome in Worship!

**A Nursery is also available for ages 2 months to 5 years from 9:45AM to 11:30 AM.**

*(Nursery is located across from the doors to the sanctuary).*

Coloring pages & Clipboards with crayons available in the Narthex (Foyer).

Just ask a greeter.

**Introduction:** A note of joyful expectation marks today's worship. Isaiah announces that the desert shall rejoice and blossom, and Jesus points to the unexpected and transforming signs of God's reign. We wait with patience for the coming of the Lord, even as we rejoice at his presence among us this day: in word and holy supper, in church and in our homes, in silent reflection and in works of justice and love. We pray that God would open our eyes and ears to the wonders of Christ's advent among us.

*Please remain seated.*

**Prelude**      Come Thou Long Expected Jesus      *Hyfrdol*      *Arr. Mark Hayes*

**Pastoral Welcome**

*Please stand and face the baptismal font..*

**Confession and Forgiveness**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the priest begins.*

*Celebrant:*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,  
whose home is heaven and earth,  
whose salvation is sure. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God  
and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

***Celebrant and People:***

**Long-expected God,  
we confess that we look to ourselves  
for the peace and security only you can provide.  
We reach for swords and spears,  
reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war.  
We become impatient while waiting  
and weary of keeping awake.**

**Free us from self-reliance,  
and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors.  
Increase our trust in God's timing,  
and awaken us to your advent among us,  
that we may abound in the hope you have promised. Amen.**

*Celebrant:*

God judges us not as we deserve,  
but according to God's own righteousness.  
☩ You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace,

and ready to welcome the Savior. **Amen.**

**Processional Hymn            Come Thou Long Expected Jesus**

**Verse 1            Come Thou long expected Jesus  
Born to set Thy people free  
From our fears and sins release us  
Let us find our rest in Thee  
Israel's strength and consolation  
Hope of all the earth Thou art  
Dear desire of every nation  
Joy of every longing heart**

**Verse 2            Born Thy people to deliver  
Born a child and yet a King  
Born to reign in us forever  
Now Thy gracious Kingdom bring  
By Thine own eternal Spirit  
Rule in all our hearts alone  
By Thine all sufficient merit  
Raise us to Thy glorious throne**

**Opening Acclamation**

*Celebrant*        Blessed are you, holy and living One. †  
**People**            You come to your people and set them free.

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath**



**Third Sunday of Advent**

Blessed are you, God of might and majesty, for you promise to make the desert rejoice and blossom, to watch over the strangers, and to set the prisoners free.

As we light these candles, satisfy our hunger with your good gifts, open our eyes to the great things you have done for us, and fill us with patience until the coming of the Lord Jesus.

*Celebrant:* O ransomed people of the Lord, come,

**People:** let us travel on God's holy way  
and enter into Zion with singing. Amen.

As three candles are lit the people sing:

### Come Now, O Prince of Peace

*Vs. 1-3*

1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y.  
2 Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.  
3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.

Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.  
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.  
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

### The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* God be with you.

**People** And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

### Welcome and Announcements

## The Word of God

### First Reading      Isaiah 35:1-10

A Reading from the book of Isaiah

<sup>1</sup>The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,  
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;  
like the crocus <sup>2</sup>it shall blossom abundantly,  
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,  
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the Lord,  
the majesty of our God.

<sup>3</sup>Strengthen the weak hands,  
and make firm the feeble knees.

<sup>4</sup>Say to those who are of a fearful heart,  
“Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,  
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.”

<sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

<sup>6</sup>then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,  
and streams in the desert;

<sup>7</sup>the burning sand shall become a pool,  
and the thirsty ground springs of water;  
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,  
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

<sup>8</sup>A highway shall be there,  
and it shall be called the Holy Way;  
the unclean shall not travel on it,  
but it shall be for God’s people;  
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.

<sup>9</sup>No lion shall be there,  
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;  
they shall not be found there,

but the redeemed shall walk there.  
<sup>10</sup>And the ransomed of the Lord shall return,  
and come to Zion with singing;  
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;  
they shall obtain joy and gladness,  
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.  
**People** **Thanks be to God**

**Second Reading James 5:7-10**

A reading from the letter of James.

<sup>7</sup>Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. <sup>8</sup>You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. <sup>9</sup>Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! <sup>10</sup>As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.  
**People** **Thanks be to God**

*Please be seated for the Christmas Story*

**The Christmas Story: God's Greatest Gift**

Children & Youth

*There are songs throughout the Christmas Story, please join in singing the verses indicated.*

**We Are Waiting for Jesus**

*Vs. 1 Children/Youth, Vs. .2 All*

Verse 1 We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings peace.

We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings peace.

Sun of justice, shine upon us we are trusting in your promise.

We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings peace.

**Verse 2 We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings peace.**

**We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings peace.**

**Loving Shepherd, walk beside us; stir our hearts, and gently guide us.**

**We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings peace.**

**Oh Little Town of Bethlehem**

*Vs. 1 Children/Youth, Vs. 2 & 4 All*

Verse 1 O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!

Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;

yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light.

Verse 2      The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.  
**For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love.  
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,  
and praises sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!**

Verse 4      **O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!**

Gloria (*Glory to God*)

*Children/Youth only*

**Away in a Manger**

*Vs. 1 Children/Youth, Vs. 2 & 3 ALL*

Verse 1 Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;  
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Verse 2      **The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,  
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.  
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky  
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.**

Verse 3      **Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay  
close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in your tender care  
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.**

*All Stand as able.*

**Hark! the Herald Angels Sing**

*Vs. 1 Children/Youth, Vs. 2 & 3 All*

Verse 1 Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king;  
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."  
Joyful, all you nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;  
with angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

*Refrain*      Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn king!"

Verse 3      **Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,**

**born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth.    *Refrain***

*Please stand as you are able.*



### **The Prayers of the People**

In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

*A brief silence.*

God of power and mercy, we praise you for Jesus and his acts of healing and liberation. Lead us to proclaim the good news from generation to generation, that all may place their hope in you.

God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

When lands are parched and dry, bring rain and snow; where wilderness is barren, sow seeds of life. Fill the lands with trees that grow, plants that flower, and creatures that thrive, as nature proclaims the wonder of your works.

God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

When there is injustice or corruption among nations and leaders, root it out. Turn their attention to inequity and the cries of the poor. Instill a deeper sense of compassion and care in all who govern.

God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

When bodies weaken and hearts grow fearful, speak your blessing.

*We pray especially for . . . (please add your own petitions, whether silently or aloud)*

In uncertain times, remind us of the promise spoken to our ancestors in faith.

God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

When children came to Jesus he embraced and blessed them. We give thanks for the children and youth of St. Andrew's who joyfully shared with us the good news of Jesus, God's greatest gift. We ask your blessing on them as they continue to grow in their faith. May they and all of us always be bearers of God's gospel of love and peace.

God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

We pray for the following Parish families: Fred & Debi Stutske; Sally & Ryan Summers, Kale, Violet, Anna White and Evelyn; Carolyn Swavely; Andy & Tracy Taylor; and Jim & Colleen Thesing. We also lift up Matt Zaborniak, who is deployed in the Middle East until next April.

In our Diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for Church of Our Saviour, Mechanicsburg; and St. James, Piqua

God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

As we await your coming, we give thanks for the faithful who have lived and died in faith especially Mary, the mother of Jesus

May their boldness of faith inspire our witness and work.

God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.. **Amen**



## **The Peace**

*Celebrant*

The peace of Christ be always with you.

**People**

**And also with you.**

*The People may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace,  
and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words..*

*Please be seated.*

## **The Holy Communion**

**Stewardship Moment**

**Offertory Sentence**

*The Celebrant says.*

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.  
Ephesians 5:12

## Offering

*The offering is collected to support the mission and ministry of St. Andrew's.*

## Offertory Music

Angels We Have Heard on High  
Pianist: George Hawkins

*French Carol Melody*

*As the offering is brought forward, all stand and sing:*

## Offertory Hymn

### What Feast of Love

*Vss. 1 & 3*



1 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban-quet come from heav - en?  
3 What wine of love is of - fered here, what crim-son drink from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last - ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?  
What stream of ev - er - last - ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.  
This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!  
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!

## Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## The Great Thanksgiving

*Celebrant* God be with you.

**People** **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

**People** **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant* It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

### Sanctus Holy, Holy, Lord Most Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord most ho - ly, God of pow'r and  
God of might: heav'n and earth re - veal your glo - ry.  
Hail, ho - san - na, Lord of light! Bless - ed be the com - ing



*The People stand or kneel as able.*

*The Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son.

For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you.

In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

***Celebrant and People***

**We remember his death,**

**We proclaim his resurrection,**

**We await his coming in glory;**

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant.

Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. Andrew and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

### *People and Celebrant*

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

### **Fraction Anthem**

This is the body of the One who was foretold by the prophets.  
This is the blood of Him who will return for you at the end of time.

**Come to us now, O Lord, in the breaking of bread.  
As once you were born in a manger in Bethlehem,  
come to us again the manger of our hands and hearts.**

### **Invitation To Communion**

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## Distribution

### Communion Song                      Emmanuel

**Chorus**            **Come come Emmanuel  
Son of God appear  
Heaven and earth rejoice  
Salvation is drawing near  
Salvation is drawing near**

**Verse 1**            **O come O come Emmanuel  
And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear**

*Repeat Chorus*

**Verse 2**            **O come O Wisdom from on high  
Who ordered all things mightily  
To us the path of knowledge show  
And teach us in her ways to go**

*Repeat Chorus*

**Verse 3**            **O come O Rod of Jesse's stem  
From ev'ry foe deliver them  
That trust Your mighty pow'r to save  
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave**

*Repeat Chorus*

**Verse 4**            **O come Desire of nations bind  
In one the hearts of humankind  
Make all our sad divisions cease  
And be for us the King of Peace**

*Repeat Chorus*

**Ending**            **Rejoice Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee O Israel  
Rejoice Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee O Israel**

### Communion Song                      Prepare the Way

**Intro**              **Prepare the way prepare the way  
Prepare the way of the Lord**

*Repeat*

**Chorus 1**            **Jesus Jesus Jesus Jesus  
Jesus Jesus Jesus Jesus**

## **Post-Communion Prayer**

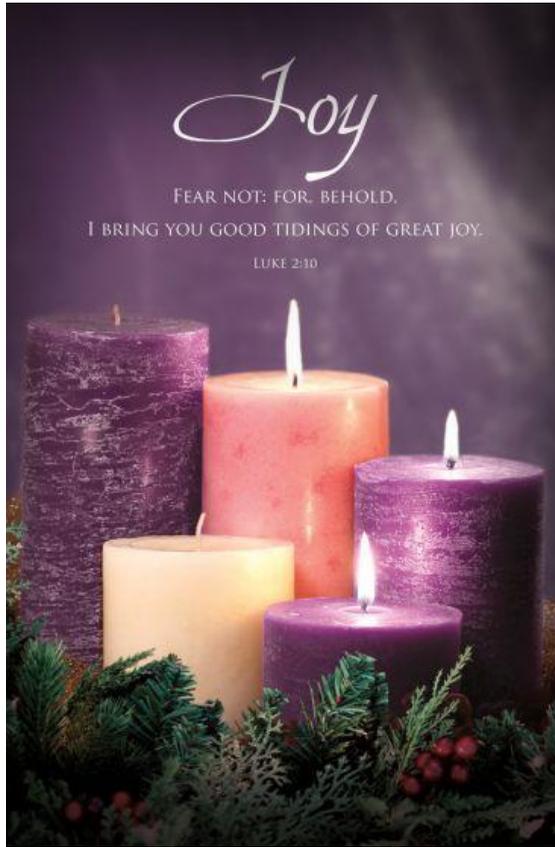
*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;  
you have united us with Christ and one another;  
and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.  
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,  
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world  
and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## **Blessing**

May God who comes among us,  
Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness,  
and good news to share today and always. **Amen.**



**Sending Hymn**

**Joy to the World**



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -  
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their  
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him  
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings  
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture  
 plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing  
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

**Dismissal**

*Celebrant*

Go in peace. Keep awake.

**People**

**Thanks be to God.**



	<b>Serving Today</b>	<b>Serving Next Week</b>
<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher:</b>	Pastor Sally Cook	Pastor Sally Cook
<b>Assisting Priest:</b>	The Rev. Marie L. Mulford	The Rev. Marie L. Mulford
<b>Music Minister:</b>	Eric Saupe	Eric Saupe
<b>Crucifer:</b>	Tunney King	George Hawkins
<b>Acolytes:</b>	Tunney King/Greg Stickney	Greg Stickney/Steve Knorr
<b>Chalicians:</b>	Tunney King/Greg Stickney	Greg Stickney/Steve Knorr
<b>Book Bearer:</b>	Christmas Story – no gospel reading.	Danielle Owolabi
<b>Lectors:</b>	Martin Myers	Jim Thesing/Martin Myers
<b>Prayer Chapel:</b>	Denise Ortiz	Weah Wisseh
<b>Audio Technician:</b>	Greg Cook/Sianee Hawkins	Richard Hernandez/Keith Hays
<b>Greeters:</b>	Mary Fry/John Reelhorn	Joe Cessna/Denise Ortiz
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	Elaine Vaughan/Mary Fry	Erica Hays/Beth Chichester
<b>Bread Baker:</b>	Sharon Stickney	Sheila Schneider
<b>Coffee Hour:</b>	Cessna/Donnellan Families	Dunn/Simeone Families
<b>Closer:</b>	Toyin Adeyanju	Steve Knorr
<b>Counters:</b>	Amanda James/Jeannie Griggs	Sheri Kreinbihl/Doug Albaugh
<b>Book Binder:</b> (Thursday)	Sharon Reelhorn	Sheri Kreinbihl/Wanda Bonnes
<b>Choral Music</b>	St. Andrew’s Choir	St. Andrew’s Choir

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“**Come Now O Prince of Peace**” Text: Geonyong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion Pope. Music: OSOSÖ, Geonyong Lee, b. 1947. Text and music © Geonyong Lee

“**He Came Down**” Text: Cameroon traditional. Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional.

“**We Are Waiting for Jesus**” Text: John Helgen, b. 1957Text © 2013 Augsburg Fortress

“**O Little Town of Bethlehem**” Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893, Music:St. Louis, Lewis Redner 1831-1908

“**Gloria**” Jacques Berthier 1923-1994, Music:Les Presses de Taize, GIA music

“**Away In A Manger**” Text: North American, Music:James R.Murray, 1841-190

“**Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**” Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, Music: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847

“**What Feast of Love**” Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939. Music: GREENSLEEVEES, English ballad, 16<sup>th</sup> Cent. Text © 1993 Delores Dufner OSB, Published by OCP Publications. All rights reserved.

“**Holy, Holy, Lord Most Holy**” Text: Martin A. Seltz, b. 1951, based on the Sanctus. Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17<sup>th</sup> cent. Text: © 1998 Augsburg Fortress.

“**Emmanuel**” John Mason Neale, Steve Angrisano. CCLI Song #5779132. © 2004 spiritandsong.com. For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com). CCLI License #11128562

“**Prepare the Way**” CCLI Song # 3441008. Charlie Hall | Louie Giglio. © sixsteps Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) worshiptogether.com songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) For use solely with the SongSelect® [Terms of Use](http://www.ccli.com). All rights reserved. [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com). CCLI License # 11128562

“**Joy to the World**” Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748. Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18<sup>th</sup> Cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872.

**Participants in “The Christmas Story: God’s Greatest Gift”**

**Storyteller:** Adrienne Strickland

**Storyteller:** Justin Strickland

**Kids by the Tree:**

Elia Harmon                      Bella White  
Kate Lohmann                    Evelyn White  
Eleanor Lohmann                Arden Patterson  
Emily McCoy                      Sofia White  
Caleb & Christa Henry

**Angel Gabriel:** Andy Taylor

**Angels:**

Ella Heid  
Rene Heid  
Liz Kithinji  
Valarie White

**Mary:** Violet Summers

**Joseph:** Kale Summers

**Lamb:** Evie White

**Donkey:** Elaine Vaughan

**Cow:** Missie Vaughan

**Shepherds:**

Jeannie Griggs  
Sally Cook

**Wisemen:**

Chris Kithinji  
Shedrach Owolabi  
Andy Taylor

**Innkeeper:** Danielle Owolabi

**Faith Formation Leaders:**

Susan Decker, Jeannie Griggs, Wanda Bonnes, Wanda Shippy, Abby Segelken,  
Brooke Heid, Adrienne Strickland and Justin Strickland

**Portions of Poem “Amazing Peace” by Maya Angelou, read by Martin Myers**

**Music:** Eric Saupe

## **Welcome to St. Andrew's**

**We extend a special welcome** to those who are single, married, divorced, separated, straight, gay, transgender, mighty rich, mighty poor, or mightily trying. We welcome those who are crying newborns, skinny as a rail, or aiming to lose a few.

**We extend a special welcome** if you can sing like Andrea Bocelli  
or can only sing into a bucket.

**You're welcome** if you're "just browsing" just woke up, or just got out of jail.

**We don't care** if you're "cradle Episcopalian" or a "cafeteria Christian"  
or if you're not sure what to be or believe.

**We don't care** if you have only seen the inside of a church through YouTube,  
think Hozier invented "Take me to church",  
or haven't been in church since your BFF from high school got married.

**We extend a special welcome** to those over 60 who haven't grown up  
yet, and to teenagers who think they're already grown up.

**We welcome** soccer dads/moms, NASCAR moms/dads, starving artists, tree-huggers, latte sippers, card carrying NRA members and card-burning Socialists.

**We welcome** vegetarians and junk-food aficionados.

**We welcome** those who are in recovery or still addicted.

**We welcome** you if you're having problems, or you're down in the dumps or if  
you don't like "organized religion", hey, many of us have been there too.

**We extend a special welcome** if you blew all your offering money at the  
casino, still think the earth is flat, work too hard, can't spell, or because  
grandma is in town and wanted to go to church.

**We extend a special welcome** to those who are inked, pierced, both or undecided.

**You are welcome** if you need a special prayer right now, don't trust "religion"  
yet feel a spiritual tug,

or got lost in traffic and wound up here by mistake.

**We welcome** seekers, finders, tourists, wanderers, doubters, bleeding  
hearts...and you.

**This is your home.**

*What unites us is Jesus Christ, his Life, Death, and Resurrection.*

*The rest is details.*



**ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**Diocese of Southern Ohio**

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